

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) A method for translating instant messages exchanged between a first user using a first device and a second user using a second device over a communication network, the first user having a first translation preference and the second user having a second translation preference, the method comprising:

sending by the first device to the second device an indication of the first translation preference;

~~receiving designation information from the first user for a first preferred language;~~

~~exchanging the designation information with the second device by sending the first preferred language to and receiving by the first device a second preferred language from the second device~~ an indication of the second translation preference, wherein the second ~~preferred language is designated by the second user and translation preference~~ is different from the first preferred language ~~translation preference~~;

receiving by the first device a first message ~~intended for the second device, the first message as~~ input composed by the first user in ~~according to~~ the first preferred language ~~translation preference~~;

translating the received first message ~~in from~~ the first preferred language into a second message in ~~translation preference to~~ the second preferred language in the first device ~~translation preference~~; and

transmitting the ~~second translated~~ message in the second preferred language translation preference to the second device via the communication network.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37 further comprising, wherein the step of exchanging the designation information includes storing by the first device the

~~exchanged designation information in the first and second devices received indication of the second translation preference~~

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37 wherein the designation information ~~includes one or more translation preferences~~ preference is specified as a destination language.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37 wherein the step of receiving a first message ~~includes inputting the first message into a real-time communication service residing on the first device~~ translation preference is specified as a locality.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37 wherein the step of receiving a first message ~~further includes sending a request to a content translation module to translate the first message from the first preferred language to the second preferred language~~ translation preference is specified as a geographic setting.

42. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 37.

43. (Currently Amended) A system for providing real-time communication over a network between first and second users, the system comprising:

a first device having a first user interface for receiving designation information from the first user for a first preferred user language and for receiving a first message for receipt by the second user as input composed by the first user in the first preferred language;

a second device having a second user interface for receiving designation information from the second user for a second preferred language;

a server for ~~exchanging receiving from the first device the designation information of the first preferred user language, for receiving from the second device the~~

designation information of the second preferred language, for sending to the second device the designation information of the first and second preferred user languages—between—, and for sending to the first and second devicesdevice the designation information of the second preferred user language;

wherein the first device further includes a content translation module for translating the received first message in the first preferred language into a second message in the second preferred language in the first device.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the content translation module is a first content translation module, and wherein the second device further comprising a second content translation module for translating a received message in the second preferred language into a message in the first preferred language.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the server also transmits the translated second message in the second language to the second device.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 45, wherein the second user interface displays the received second message in the second language to the second user.

47. (Previously Presented) A device having capability to send and receive instant messages, the device comprising:

a user interface for accepting a user language preference and instant message input data in a first human-readable language;

an instant messaging application operatively coupled to the user interface for exchanging instant messages with a second device;

a translation module operatively coupled to the instant messaging application that translates the instant message input data into a second human-readable

language, the second human-readable language being different from the first human-readable language; and

a storage operatively coupled to the user interface for storing the user language preference from the user interface and a translation preference received from the second device;

wherein the instant messaging application accepts the instant message input data and the translation module translates the instant message input data from the first human readable language into the second human readable language according to the translation preference received from the second device.